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The Honorable Gil Gutknecht (MN-01)

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Extension of Remarks

Honoring the life of Lance Corporal Robert G. Posivio III

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Lance Corporal Robert G. Posivio III, who died a hero in a roadside bomb attack on May 23, 2006, while protecting his country and fighting for freedom in the al Anbar province of Iraq. As a devoted son, brother, and Marine, Lance Corporal Posivio will be missed by many.

Lance Corporal Posivio was born on October 4, 1983, in Mankato, Minnesota, to Robert M. Posivio Jr. and Patricia A. Posivio. He enlisted in the United States Marines while attending Martin County West Senior High School in Sherburn, Minnesota, where he graduated in 2002.

Lance Corporal Posivio was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, based at Camp Pendleton, California. He is preceded in death by his grandmother, Ardis Posivio; his uncle, Don Wood; his brother, Daniel L. Posivio; and other relatives.

Lance Corporal Posivio was on his third tour of duty in Iraq and was scheduled to be honorably discharged on July 28. He returned to combat on April 30 after suffering injuries in a mortar attack on April 13 in which two members of his unit were killed.

Lance Corporal Posivio told his family that if he died, he wanted the following quote placed on his tombstone: "Freedom comes at a price that the free will never know." We owe Lance Corporal Posivio and all the brave men and women serving in our armed forces a great debt of gratitude. We ask them to defend our nation; we need to let them know they are not forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my condolences to Lance Corporal Posivio's parents, Robert, Jr. and Patti; his sister, Sarah Peltier and her husband, Colin; his grandparents, Robert F. Posivio and Eugene and Evelyn McDonald; and the many other friends and family who loved him and miss him. In this time of sorrow, may our thoughts and prayers comfort them, and may his memory bring them peace.